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United States Patent [19]**Banfield**[11] **Patent Number:** **5,786,061**[45] **Date of Patent:** **Jul. 28, 1998**[54] **SEPARABLE FASTENER HAVING A PERIMETER COVER GASKET**[75] **Inventor:** **Donald L. Banfield**, Manchester, N.H.[73] **Assignee:** **Velcro Industries B.V.**, Curacao, Netherlands Antilles[21] **Appl. No.:** **691,998**[22] **Filed:** **Aug. 2, 1996****Related U.S. Application Data**

[63] Continuation-in-part of Ser. No. 684,109, Jul. 19, 1996, which is a continuation of Ser. No. 536,965, Sep. 29, 1995, Pat. No. 5,540,970, which is a continuation of Ser. No. 390,150, Feb. 21, 1995, abandoned, which is a continuation of Ser. No. 87,917, Jul. 6, 1993, abandoned, which is a continuation-in-part of Ser. No. 976,485, Nov. 16, 1992, abandoned, which is a continuation of Ser. No. 695,183, May 3, 1991, abandoned.

[51] **Int. Cl.⁶** **A44B 21/00**[52] **U.S. Cl.** **428/100; 428/99; 428/120; 428/192; 24/442**[58] **Field of Search** **428/99, 100, 120, 428/192; 24/442, 444**[56] **References Cited****U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

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[57]

ABSTRACT

A separable fastener component for use with a complementary separable fastener component has a base member, having a nominal fastening face and a non-fastening face. Carried on the fastening face is a pattern of fastening elements, comprising an interior region carrying fastening elements that are free of any cover. Substantially surrounding the interior region is a perimeter region that carries fastening elements which are covered. The perimeter region of covered fastening elements may be a rectangular or non-rectangular annulus. The fastening elements may be hooks or loops.

The fastening component may be incorporated into a molded product, with minimal intrusion of the molding material into the fastening elements of the main region. The perimeter cover forms a gasket seal with the mold in several different configurations and prevents molding material from infiltrating to the uncovered interior region of fastening elements. The perimeter cover need not be removed for use of the fastener component, because the uncovered interior fastening elements function normally.

An assembly line method of making the fastening component and a method of molding the fastening component into an article are also disclosed.

29 Claims, 7 Drawing Sheets